

Eight members of the crew died when the plane crashed. Mr. Thibault was blown out of the plane onto the runway and ran into the jungle. He was later rescued by Navy troops and brought to a Naval hospital. Mr. Thibault had second and third degree burns on his arms, back, and face. During the first few weeks that he was in the hospital, doctors did not know if he would survive. After he returned home to the states, it took Mr. Thibault about a year to recover from the injuries he received in the plane crash.

In addition to the Purple Heart, Mr. Thibault received other awards for his service to his country in World War II, including the Air Medal with Clusters, the Victory Medal, the Good Conduct Medal, American Theater Campaign/Asiatic Pacific Campaign Ribbons with three Battle Stars and the Presidential Unit Citation.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to take a moment to join me in honoring Leopold Thibault for his patriotism, bravery, and courage while defending our great country.

IN TRIBUTE

SPEECH OF

HON. VITO FOSSELLA

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 28, 1998

Mr. FOSSELLA. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart that I come here today to offer my condolences and prayers to the families of Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson. As I was walking here just a few moments ago, I stopped to speak to a retired Capitol Hill Police Officer. As we were discussing last week's tragic shooting, he said to me, "It could have been one of us." In many ways, I think that characterizes the mood on Capitol Hill right now. Many of us feel vulnerable today because, indeed, it could have been one of us.

The greatest gift one human being can give another is his life. Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson made the ultimate sacrifice not because they sought to be heroes, but because that was the type of men they were. In a moment of intense fear, of extreme panic that I pray most Americans will never know, Officer Chestnut and Detective Gibson stood tall. They laid their lives down so that others would not have to.

Sadly, in my community on Staten Island, there is another hero in need of our prayers. Police Officer Gerard Carter is lying in a hospital bed right now with a bullet lodged in his brain. He is holding onto life with the faintest of grips, struggling to survive after being shot in the right temple two nights ago by a 17-year old, two-time murderer. Police Officer Carter was truly one of New York's Finest, a brave young man who stared danger in the face and sought to make a difference.

Sometimes we may forget the danger that our law enforcement officers face when they put on their uniforms, clip on their badges and take to the streets. They put themselves in harm's way so that we may be safe. I offer them our thanks, and to the families of Officer Chestnut, Detective Gibson and Police Officer Carter, I offer you our prayers.

TRIBUTE TO MEEK STALLING

HON. THOMAS M. BARRETT

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 1998

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate this opportunity to tell my colleagues about a proud American and a beloved Milwaukeean: Meek Gladney Stalling.

Meek Stalling was born on June 20, 1921. On that same day, in 1782, our nation chose the eagle as its symbol. Those who knew and loved Mr. Stalling will tell you that he had a lot in common with our national symbol.

Like the eagles that grace our nation's skies, Meek Stalling loved to fly. A year before Pearl Harbor, he joined the U.S. Army Air Corps and served as a Tuskegee Airman. Like other members of this historic unit, Mr. Stalling fought two wars; a life and death battle against the most formidable air force in Europe, and a moral struggle against racial prejudice at home. Meek Stalling served proudly through it all, and at the end of the war, he returned home with an honorable discharge.

Mr. Stalling's passion for flight continued in civilian life, as an active member of the Circle Masters Flying Club, the Milwaukee Public Schools Aviation Program, and the Jackie Robinson Aviation Program. He was also an accomplished airplane model builder, and his vigorous support for aviation won the recognition of NASA's Apollo Program and earned him the opportunity to accompany Milwaukee's 128th Air Refueling Group, during the Persian Gulf War.

Meek Stalling, like our nation's symbol, also represented some of America's best qualities. As a World War II veteran, he demonstrated the strength and passion for freedom that have always been our country's hallmarks, and as a pioneer in the desegregation of America's armed services, he envisioned a future where patriotism, not race, was an American soldier's guide.

Mr. Stalling also shared our country's firm foundation in faith. As a young man, he joined St. Mark A.M.E. Church in Duluth, Minnesota. When he moved to Milwaukee, in 1956, Mr. Stalling joined our community's St. Mark A.M.E. Church and began a long and distinguished service. He was a talented carpenter and volunteered his skills to ensure that the church buildings were always in good repair. He was one of St. Mark's oldest living Trustees.

Two of our nation's core values, family and community, were also central commitments for Meek Stalling. He loved Ruby, his wife of 42 years, deeply, and rejoiced with her in their son, Charles. Mr. Stalling was also an active community volunteer, serving as a Scoutmaster, a leader in several aviation related organizations, and as the unofficial sporting goods repair guru for the neighborhood's children.

Mr. Speaker, Meek Stalling passed away, this week. Though our community is diminished by his loss, I ask that my colleagues join me, his family, and friends, in celebrating the remarkable life of this man who truly symbolized America at its best.

DR. LUCILLE BANKS ROBINSON
MILLER

HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 1998

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to celebrate the life and mark the passing of Dr. Lucille Banks Robinson Miller.

Dr. Miller was born in the District of Columbia. She was the eldest of six daughters born to Deacon Edward Lewis and Deaconess Mary Lewis of the Metropolitan Baptist Church. As an adult, Dr. Miller became affiliated with Corinthian Baptist Church. Most recently, she was a member of the New Bethel Baptist Church. She was the devoted mother of three sons: Dr. Thomas Tipton, Arthur Robinson and Reginald Robinson.

Dr. Miller graduated from Armstrong Senior High School, the Just Nursing School, and Jennifer Business College. She also attended Howard University, where she majored in music and minored in psychology. Dr. Miller received an Honorary Doctorate from Virginia Seminary and College in 1983, and an Honorary Doctorate from the Washington Saturday College in 1996.

With a deep love for gospel music, she formed the Banks Seminary Choir in 1937. That group rapidly became one of the most successful youth choirs in the Washington area. Following this success, Dr. Miller founded the Paramount School of Music, one of the largest private schools in the area. She taught music for 38 years.

As she gained popularity among churches and ministers in the Washington area, Dr. Miller was called upon to be the Mistress of Ceremonies at area churches and for major gospel events. During this time she established friendships with renowned gospel artists of her time, including Mahalia Jackson, James Cleveland, Roberta Martin, Richard Smallwood, Donald Vails, and a host of others. She also held regular Sunday vesper services at various churches from the late 1950's to the 1970's.

Known for her colorful and inspirational style, Dr. Miller became a legend in her own time. It was this same personal style that led her to become Washington's premier gospel music radio personality. She started her radio career at Station WOOK. She also worked at WUST and WOL radio stations. In 1979, she joined the WYCB Family. Her radio career continued for more than 45 years. The spirit of Dr. Miller's WYCB programs—"The Early Dawn of Gospel Sound" and "The Hour of Love and Power"—radiated a family warmth. Her never-ending concern for senior citizens, youth and the religious community was always apparent.

During her career, Dr. Miller received over 600 awards and commendations and was received in an audience with Pope John Paul II at Vatican City in Rome, Italy. Two of her most cherished awards were her induction into the Thomas Dorsey Gospel Music Hall of Fame in 1996 and her induction into the Eta Beta Sorority Hall of Fame in 1996.

Her passion for helping others will always be remembered. She made sure that the children of her listeners had tuition and clothes for school, that families in need of food and shelter were provided for, and that the needs of

senior citizens were met. This was her legacy of compassion, touching the hearts and lives of hundreds of thousands.

Mr. Speaker, for her faithfulness, nobility of character and humbleness of spirit, I ask the Members in this chamber to join me in celebrating the marvelous legacy of Dr. Lucille Banks Robinson Miller.

ISSUES FACING YOUNG PEOPLE TODAY

HON. BERNARD SANDERS

OF VERMONT

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, July 31, 1998

Mr. SANDERS. Mr. Speaker, I would like to have printed in the RECORD these statements by high school students from my home State of Vermont, who were speaking at my recent town meeting on issues facing young people today. I am asking that you please insert these statements in the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD as I believe that the views of these young people will benefit my colleagues

STATEMENT BY ERICA LEWIS AND DAN JOHNSON REGARDING DRUNK DRIVING

ERICA LEWIS: We would like to express a concern that is becoming a big issue with teen Vermonters today. Our concern is probably the same as many others: Teen driving under the influence of alcohol

Young adults are usually both inexperienced drivers as well as inexperienced drinkers. These two combined is a fatality waiting to happen. Alcohol, when consumed, decreases alertness, causes depression, nausea, unconsciousness, hangovers, and possible overdose, which could lead to death. We, as teenagers, should be aware of the serious risks that are involved when wrong choices are made and lives are at stake. Driving should be considered a privilege, not a right, for we all have the right to be safe while driving, and when alcohol is involved, no one can predict the outcome. Anyone of us here today could be driving down the road next week and, because of a drunk driver, never make it to where we were headed. Because of this increasing problem, there needs to be more awareness of alcohol and its effects. It is up to us, the younger generation, to make an impression on our peers and those that follow, and most of all to prove to our elders that we have what it takes to make the right decisions and follow through.

There is no overall solution to this problem, but we, as mature young adults, should make a strong effort to plan ahead before it gets to a point where it might be too late, whether that be make arrangements for a designated driver or staying until you are capable of driving.

DAN JOHNSON. A suggestion that we have and strongly agree with is a paper called a contract for life. It is an agreement between teenagers and their parents stating, if at any given time that either they feel incapable of driving, there will be transportation provided, and safe transportation for them. This contract was given to us from our drivers ed teachers at the Essex Technical Center. Other suggestions that we agree with is larger penalties for adults in furnishing alcohol for minors at stores to sell this. Teen drinking and driving will always be a problem, but, hopefully, with our help, we can reduce it. Thank you for our time.

CONGRESSMAN SANDERS. A very important contribution to this discussion. Thank very much.

STATEMENT BY BILL DOE, NICK BULLARD, MIKE CURRIER AND HEATHER DOLOFF REGARDING TEEN DRINKING AND DRUG USAGE SURVEY

BILL DOE: First of all, we would like to thank you for inviting us to this event today. And we would like to make a minor correction on the program guide. Our presentation is focused mainly on the alcohol abuse and not so much drug abuse.

In preparation for this presentation, we conducted a survey amongst our junior and senior peers. The topic of the survey was underage drinking. Some of our survey questions were as follows:

MIKE CURRIER: It goes: How old are you? Do you drink? If so, how often? Do you ever drink and drive, or ride with somebody who has been drinking? Why do you drink? To be rebellious; tastes good; to get rid of problems; to get wasted; and, a social drinker. The last question was: What do you think about lowering the drinking age?

HEATHER DOLOFF: And our results turned out to be most of the people who drank were age 18, 17, 16, and we had a few who were aged 19, and we did not take surveys from people under 16.

On the average, people drink and they tend to drink once or two times monthly, and a few do drink more than that, and we did have just under 20 people who we surveyed, out of a hundred, who did not drink at all.

And, overall, people don't drive when they have been drinking or don't ride with someone who has been drinking. Only about 30 people we surveyed said that they did, 10 said sometimes, and 60 said not at all, which is encouraging.

And the most common cause for people to drink was that they are a social drinker, which leads me to believe that peer pressure is playing a large role in it.

BILL DOE: We also found that many of the people that we interviewed or surveyed, actually, would have liked the drinking age to be lowered to 16. Now, I tend to think that was more of a case of not being mature, they want to go out and party and have a good time, and wouldn't be young enough to be able to do it legally.

In many countries, you will find the drinking age is very young, perhaps, I think, 16. And it has proven to actually work in many countries, I think only because it has kind of been found as, you know, it is just a given, that is what their society accepts, and they have grown to a certain maturity level that they can live with that.

If we were to, perhaps, lower the drinking age, I think we would have to do it gradually, perhaps like one year at a time, or lower it to like maybe 20 in five years, or 19 the next five years, gradually getting down to maybe 18, perhaps. And maybe then our society will be mature enough to handle it and perhaps be mature about it.

NICK BULLARD: As you can see from our graphs, we have done extensive work with certain questions dealing with underage drinking. In this year alone, the drinking problem in this state has risen greatly, with numerous deaths resulting. This is why the State is cracking down on underage drinking, from the special task force known as START Team to DUI teams. These peoples' only job is to control drinking and driving in Vermont. START concentrates only on underage drinking.

CONGRESSMAN SANDERS: Thanks very much.

STATEMENT BY ELIZABETH CARTIER, ANNE MITIGUY, JASON MAGNANI, ERIC MORAN, DANIELLE PEZZIMENTI AND TED DEMULDER REGARDING TEEN DRINKING

ELIZABETH CARTIER: Today we would like to express our concern about alcohol ad-

vertising and the effects it has on youth. Alcohol is the number one drug used among young people. Eight teenagers a day die due to alcohol-related accidents. About two-thirds of teenagers who drink say they can buy their own alcohol. It is said that one out of every 280 babies born today will die in an automobile accident that is alcohol related. Traffic accidents are the single greatest cause of death between the ages of 6 and 28. About 47 percent of these accidents are alcohol-related. 56 percent of students in grades 5 through 12 say that alcohol advertising encourages them to drink.

TED DEMULDER: We have a poster to illustrate underage drinking. There are 10 million underage drinkers in the United States. Of those 10 million, 4.4 million are binge drinkers, which means they have 5 drinks or more, and 1.7 million teens drink heavily on a regular basis.

JASON MAGNANI: Teenagers are known to be more susceptible to alcoholic advertising than adults. This is especially true when it comes to radio and television broadcasting. In June of 1996, the Seagrams America Company began running Crown Royal brand whiskey commercials in Corpus Christi, Texas. It featured a dog labeled Obedience School Graduate who was carrying a newspaper. Another dog labeled Valedictorian was carrying a bottle of Crown Royal. In this ad, Seagrams positioned liquor as an award for achievement.

When liquor ads started to run on television, public health groups and government officials reacted in an alarming way. They said that, by running liquor ads on television, they would be seen by young people and that sometimes they were deliberately targeted at young people. In November of '96, after the liquor ads came out, 26 members of Congress wrote to the Federal Communications Corporation, urging them to further investigate the liquor ads on television. They said that they did not want children to get an image of academic and athletic success, gained through drinking alcohol beverages.

ANNE MITIGUY: Consumer and public health groups scoff at alcohol ads that are aimed at teenagers. They say that beer is heavily advertised during televised sporting events. These are mostly watched by high school and college aged students. The Seagrams ads about the obedience dogs and the Budweiser frogs are designed to catch the eye of young viewers. The alcohol industry critics say that young people decide to sample alcohol because of peer pressure but that advertising reinforces their inner thoughts. The ads are mostly young, attractive and healthy-looking adults. Most of the time, you can't even really tell how old they are. They are drinking beer, and at the end of the commercial, one of them says "It just can't get much better than this." These ads don't show both sides. As they say, it might not get any better, but it can get a whole lot worse. This is a side that should be shown more often, but isn't.

TED DEMULDER: In flipping through two mainstream magazines for our collage, Newsweek and People, we came across various alcohol advertisements. The Barcardi ads shows an unrealistic view of what happens to people when they drink. The Absolut ads have become coffee book material for many teenagers that collect them. The slogan "Forget the rules and enjoy the wine" shows how irresponsible people are, and basically the companies are saying anyone can drink.

ERIC MORIN: Because alcohol ads are very glorified and intensified, more today than ever were before, they can be very harmful to our generation and generations to come. These ads exert constant and powerful pressure on today's youth. With more and more